



Annual General Meeting
Saturday 12 January 2019, 10.30am
YMCA Reading, 34 Parkside Road, Reading, RG30 2DD

1. Welcome

Ellie Gosling welcomed and thanked all those in attendance for joining us; Kirsty Scott, Ian Gosling, Juliet Fenwick and representation from the following junior member's families; Tetlow, Littlewood, Goodey, Matthews, James, Cater, Harper, Tyers, Murtagh, Ford, Green, Richards, Howells and Metcalfe. Ellie thanked them for joining the Reading Rascals AGM.

2. Apologies/Absence

Apologies were received from Dave Wood and Steve Mott.

3. Minutes of last Annual General Meeting

These were reviewed and deemed a true record. Ellie stated that there was lots of discussion last year about the numbers of junior members in TS2/TS3 and Youth age categories, which will be covered later in the meeting.

4. Chairman's report

Ellie used three words to sum 2018 - fun, successful and welcoming. Ellie thanked all those in attendance for making the club what it is.

Some of the highlights of 2018 included:

- Trip to Olympic Park for which we are very grateful to Chalfont Coaches/Mark Shears for providing the transport for this event free of charge.
- The Dinton Duathlon which was a fundraiser for the Brain Tumour Charity, led by Ollie Shears and raising just under £4,000 from this one event.
- Family Circuits – seeing SO many adults and parents exercising together
- Inter-Club Triathlon at Queen Anne's School with Bicester Junior Triathlon Club and Thames Valley Triathlete Tristars. Plans are afoot to repeat this event as a Duathlon on Saturday 26 January at Palmer Park Velodrome.

The club held their first overnight training camp at Crystal Palace National Sports Centre with 18 junior members and 4 adults. The camp was enjoyed by all and similar will be organised for 2019.

Ellie commented how pleased she was with the representation of Reading Rascals at the Triathlon England South Central Junior Series this year and praised those who were invited to the awards evening to receive their age group podium prizes. All members are encouraged to look at the events in this year's series, shown

[here](#). To complete in the series you must be a Triathlon England Member which can be purchased direct with Triathlon England [here](#).

Ellie stated that Reading Rascals is now a Triathlon England TriMark Bronze Accredited Club; which is a prerequisite for all Triathlon England junior clubs by 31 January 2019.

During 2018 the club welcomed Lorna White as a Level 2 Coach to the coaching team. Lorna is an experienced coach and triathlete and is asset to the team. Juliet Fenwick also joined the coaching team as a Community Activator and is currently looking for suitable Level 1 coaching courses.

Ellie stated that Macbeth Insurance kindly agreed to sponsor the club, to the sum of £1,000 for 2018. This money has yet to be received.

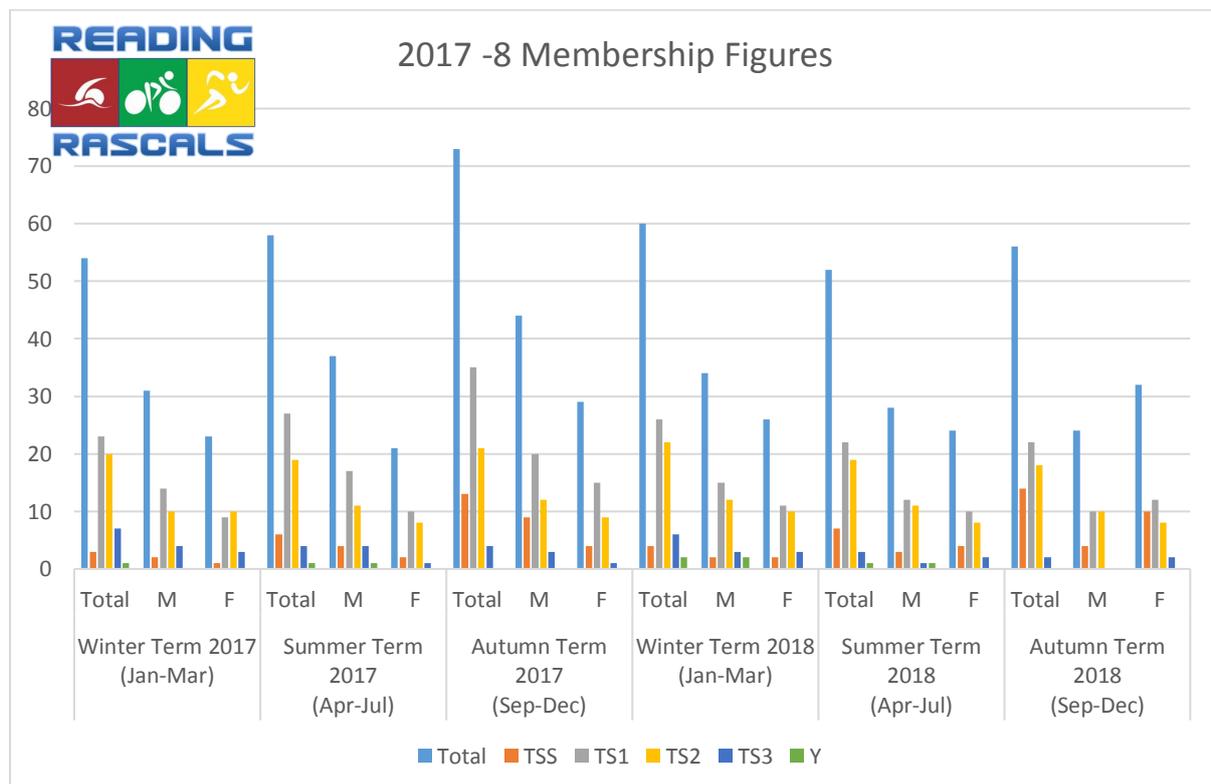
Ellie confirmed that we have changed trisuit providers to the same provider as Bicester Junior Triathlon Club, and the first order of 30 suits has been ordered and is expected to arrive beginning/middle of February. It is hoped that the suits will be of a higher standard than the previous RGMM suits of which many of the zips and tassle broke.

Ellie thanked Richard Metcalfe for all of his amazing photos he has taken at various sessions/events throughout the year. All present agreed they are fantastic photos and Ellie will be updating the photos on our website with Richard's over the next month.

Ellie stated that a new online membership/registration system is now active with Clubtrac. It is hoped that this system is more user friendly.

5. Secretary's report

Kirsty shared the following graph with the members to show the membership figures:



There has been a 10% decline in the total number of junior members in 2018 v's 2017. However there has been an increase in number of members in the TriStar Start age group. The membership numbers in the TS3

age group are not increasing. This was discussed, as it was last year, and felt that it was not an issue that was easily solved as children of this age group (12/13) have lots of other pressures/stresses/interests.

6. Treasurer's report

Ian shared a copy of the Income & Expenditure Summary for 2018 with those present.

Reading Rascals 2018

Income & Expenditure Summary

1 Opening bank balance 01/01/18	£1,885.25	
2 Income		
Fees & memberships	£9,901.56	
3 Expenses		
Annual affiliation fee to British Triathlon	-£87.50	
Coaching Fees	-£5,397.19	
Session Expenses	-£1,672.41	
Rascals Merchandise	-£2,079.98	Hoodies, bobble hats, bottles + printing
BF Event Fees	-£183.00	
Crystal Palace	£900.00	Awaiting final invoice to pay
Aquatic Centre	-£285.00	Coach fuel, diving tickets
Rascals Event Race Fees	-£372.00	Shinfield Cyclocross
Other misc exp	-£552.97	Woodley fun run sponsorship £150 A Dart World Champs sponsorship £100
Total	<u>-£9,730.05</u>	
4 Balance at bank 31/12/18	£2,056.76	
Not accounted for in bank		
- Macbeths sponsorship due (income)	£1,000.00	
- Final Crystal Palace invoice to pay	-£1,300.00	

Stock at 31/12/18

	Provider	In stock	Price	
Swim hat*	2017	90	£3.00	£270.00
Bottles*	2017	90	£3.00	£270.00
Bags*	2017	60	£3.00	£180.00
Hoodies	Blade	24	£25.00	£600.00
Tshirts	Cavaliers	16	£10.00	£160.00
Bobble hats	Mfour	35	£5.00	£175.00
				<u>£1,655.00</u>

* First one free for new members

Ian stated that figures above represent the 10% reduction in members – i.e. 10% less income v's 2017. Every member in the Autumn Term 2018 received a Rascals bobble hat sponsored by Macbeths. Any future members will be able to purchase these hats for £5. The Crystal Palace trip cost the club £400 – which is being covered by the remaining Macbeth sponsorship money and club funds.

7. Welfare Officer's report

Ellie informed the AGM that Steve Mott had confirmed there were no welfare issues to report. He is there should anyone have any issues at all regarding any junior members welfare or safeguarding.

Ellie also informed the AGM that Lisa Wilson will be stepping down as assistant/female Club Welfare Officer as she no longer has any involvement with the club and Steve is happy to take on the role himself. Ellie thanked Lisa for her involvement and support of Reading Rascals from its inception in 2013.

8. Election of committee for 2018-19

As per the Club Constitution Full Voting members of the club consist of the Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Club Welfare Officer and other elected personnel.

Dave Wood and Juliet Fenwick have submitted a request for Full Membership which was granted along with the following elections:

Chairman – Ellie Gosling

Secretary – Kirst Scott

Treasurer – Ian Gosling

Club Welfare Officers – Steve Mott

Elected Committee Members – Dave Wood & Juliet Fenwick

9. Strategy and direction for forthcoming year

At this point in the meeting, Ellie opened the floor to the AGM and asked the junior members what they like most about the club. The answers included The Liquid Leisure trip, The LookOut cycling session and Crystal Palace Camp.

Several other session ideas were suggested, including reviewing bike gearing (which will be covered at the Brick session on 19 January 2019 and subsequent bike sessions), running technique/gait and tips for removal of wetsuits (this to be included at some of the swim sessions this term and subsequently throughout the year).

Dave Illingworth stated that he was more than happy to help promote Reading Rascals through his children's school newsletter/have leaflets at schools. Ellie to bring leaflets to next Rascals session for any members to distribute as they feel fit. An A5 PDF copy of the promotional leaflet is also to be made available on our website and Facebook members page for members to share accordingly.

Ellie suggested the idea of having a Club Championship race – i.e. targeting a race that is already on the calendar/series and trying to encourage as many members as possible to take part. Bowood House Triathlon (open water) on Saturday 29 June, was suggested by Karen Ford as it is a fantastic venue and there is also an adult's event too!

Ellie is also very keen for there to be several Reading Rascal teams taking part in the Beachborough Mixed Relay Triathlon on Sunday 16 June as this event was thoroughly enjoyed by the Rascals that took part last year, and podiumed!

Mark Shears suggested organising a club party/social function that could be used to help increase the bank balance.

It was discussed as to whether we wanted to offer more coached sessions during the week. The general consensus was to look at other clubs (primarily cycle related) that are already in existence and seeing if we

can work with these clubs/training sessions rather than putting on additional training sessions of our own. Ellie to investigate the Reading Borough Council weekly cycle sessions at Palmer Park velodrome on a [Wednesday afternoon](#) and to also contact Sprocketts Cycle Club.

A discussion was held about Open Water Swimming and how soon we start our training sessions v's the season starting. Kirsty stated that we try to avoid taking the Rascals into the Open Water too soon, as the water temperature can be too cold/much of a shock for junior members. This clearly is weather dependant and will be reviewed nearer the time based on the long term forecast. Ellie stated that Reading Rascals will not be training at Horseshoe Lake due to the £10/head cost to swim at this venue. Our open water swimming venue for 2019 will be Tri20 Swim Centre.

Mark Shears asked whether it was possible to look at Reading Rascals being able to take part in local Cross Country running leagues. It is believed that to take part in these leagues you have to be a member of an England Athletics registered club. Ellie is to investigate further.

Several members have been taking part in the local Cyclocross league – it was felt it would be great to suggest an event in this league for Rascals to congregate at en-mass to support each other and see how much fun can be had cycling off-road. Ellie to suggest a suitable date/event.

It was asked whether there could be a spreadsheet/list of events that Rascals can take part be made available. This spreadsheet can be updated to show which Rascals are taking part and help others see what other events members are taking part in. Juliet to create a Google Drive spreadsheet that will be available on the Facebook Members Page/link available to members.

10. Any other Business

Karen Ford commented that it was a real shame that there were no Rascal coaches present at the Triathlon England South Central Junior Series Awards presentation evening at Shiplake College in 2018. This was noted by the Coaches, and will be rectified in 2019.

Mark Shears also commented that there should be more awareness and publicity of the awards that were presented at the awards evening (excluding the athlete results), such as Club of the Year, Coach of the Year etc. Ellie to liaise with Garry Cooper, Regional Series coordinator about this.

11. Close

Meeting closed at 11.20am.

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